Identity Cards for Residents of Border Areas Punjab and J & K

*359. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Governments of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir have decided to issue identity cards to the residents of border areas;

(b) if so, the criteria regarding eligibility of persons who would be entitled to the issue of such cards;

(c) what administrative precautions taken to ensure that only eligible persons are issued such cards;

(d) whether work regarding issue of identity cards in these two States has commenced, if so, the progress made so far;

(e) the estimated number of persons in each of the two States who are eligible for such cards; and

(f) the time schedule by which the scheme is to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In Punjab all permanent residents of the age of 13 years and above and in Jammu & Kashmir only males of the age of 18 years and above in specified border areas are to be issued identity cards.

(c) Identity cards are issued by the State Governments only after proper verification of the identity and eligibility of the applicant by the police/district authorities.

(d) While the State Government of Punjab are engaged in completing the formalities for taking up actual distribution of the cards, the Government of Jammu & Kashmir have already distributed cards to most of the eligible persons.

(e) Punjab—1.14 lacs

J & K—1.80 lacs

(f) No time schedule has been prescribed by the State Governments for implementation of the scheme.

Industrial Security Cell

*360. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have established an Industrial Security Cell to give protection and security to Public Sector Undertakings against terrorist and subversive activities;

(b) if so, whether all the Public Sector Undertakings are covered under it; and

(c) whether this Cell has so far been able to avert any mishap?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, there is a Central Industrial Security Force for protection and security of Industrial Undertakings owned by the Central Government and certain other Industrial Undertakings.

[Translation]

Telephone Connections on Recommendations of Members of Parliament

*361. SHRI MORESHWAR SAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone connections that can be recommended by a Member of Parliament in a year;

(b) the usual time taken for installation of such telephones; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure speedy installation of such telephone connections?